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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 035629

63
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 /018 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:RBMORLEY:JES
APPROVED BY NEA/INS:BWBROWN,JR., ACTING
EB/CSB/OSB:JGRAHAME
---------- 067194
R 130224Z FEB 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, USINJC, IN, US

SUBJECT: PHARMACEUTICAL MISSION TO INDIA

REF: A) BOMBAY 322; B) NEW DELHI 1661

1. ROBERT MEAGHER, MEMBER OF PROPOSED BALL MISSION TO INDIA, CALLED ON DEPARTMENT FEBRUARY 12 TO REVIEW STRATEGY AND PROSPECTS FOR MISSION. DRAWING ON REFTELS AND PREVIOUS, WE ARTICULATED EMBASSY'S AND OUR RESERVATIONS ABOUT MISSION. MEAGHER WAS RECEPTIVE TO PRESENTATION, AND EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT APPROACH TO PM AT THIS TIME WAS NOT A TACTICALLY SOUND MOVE. HE FELT LOWER KEY MISSION TO INDIA TO VISIT MINISTRY AND INDUSTRY OFFICIALS AND ASSESS SETHI'S ATTITUDES WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN FIRMS' PARTICIPATION IN INDIAN DRUG INDUSTRY WOULD HAVE BEEN FAR SOUNDER APPROACH. HOWEVER, MEAGHER SEEMS TO FEEL THAT DECISION TO CALL ON PM WAS FINAL, AND THAT THERE WAS NOTHING HE COULD DO TO CHANGE THAT.

2. MEAGHER ADVISES THAT BALL HAS SCHEDULED STRATEGY SESSION FOR NEXT WEDNESDAY IN NEW YORK, AND THAT MISSION WILL ARRIVE IN INDIA AROUND MARCH 10.
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3. MEAGHER HAS EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND IN INDIAN AFFAIRS. WE
WERE IMPRESSED BY HIS RATIONAL AND PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO

THIS MISSION. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
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To: NEW DELHI
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